

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 7375

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, GR, CY, TU, US
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL RELATIONS: NIMETZ VISIT TO CYPRUS

REF: (A) STATE 215077 (NOTAL), (B) ATHENS 7329

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF A, BARBIS INFORMED MFA DIRECTOR
GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS TZOUNIS AUGUST 24 ABOUT THE
NIMETZ VISIT TO CYPRUS AND CONFIRMED THAT NIMETZ WOULD NOT
BE GOING TO ANKARA. IN A CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
RALLIS EARLIER IN THE DAY, RALLIS HAD REITERATED TO US
HIS STRONG FEELING THAT NIMETZ SHOULD ALSO GO TO ANKARA, IN
ADDITION TO NICOSIA, IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE UNITED
STATES WAS ACTING TO BRING ABOUT MOVEMENT ON CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS
(AND TO GREEK PUBLIC OPINION, AS WELL AS THE GOG, THIS MEANS
PUTTING PRESSURE ON THE GOT). BECAUSE OF THIS, WE EXPLAINED TO
TZOUNIS THAT NIMETZ HAD CONSIDERED INCLUDING ANKARA IN HIS
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ITINERARY, BUT HAD DECIDED AGAINST GOING THERE IN ORDER TO
AVOID THE INEVITABLE SPECULATION THAT HE WAS BEARING NEW PRO-
POSALS. IN ADBGTION, HE HAD HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF OBTAINING
THE LATEST TURKISH POSITIONS ON CYPRUS FROM HIS CONVERSATIONS
WITH ELEKDAG WHO HAD BEEN IN CONSTANT TOUCH WITH PRIME MINISTER
ECEVIT IN THIS CONNECTION WHILE HE WAS IN WASHINGTON.

2. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING HIS FOREIGN MINISTER'S VIEWS THAT NIMETZ SHOULD ALSO VISIT ANKARA, TZOUNIS DID NOT PURSUE THE MATTER AND SEEMED TO ACCEPT THE FACT THAT A STOP IN ANKARA WOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN NIMETZ' TRAVELS. HOWEVER, TZOUNIS REITERATED (REF B) THAT THE DENKTASH PROPOSALS AS THEY NOW STAND ARE A "NON-OFFER" AND A "NON-STARTER". HE READ TO THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR EXCERPTS FROM A GREEK EMBASSY NICOSIA REPORTING TELEGRAM OF ITS BRIEFING BY CYPRIOT MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL PELAGHIAS OF THE GALINDO-POHL MEETING WITH DENKTASH ON THE VAROSHA PROPOSALS (AS REPORTED TO THE GOC BY UN SENIOR POLITICAL ADVISER GORGE). DENKTASH HAD MADE IT CLEAR, TZOUNIS ARGUED, CITING THE ABOVE, THAT THE MAIN MOTIVATION IN MAKING HIS VAROSHA PROPOSALS WAS "TO BRING THE GREEK CYPRIOTS TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE AND TO KEEP THEM THERE." MOREOVER, HE HAD ALSO MADE IT CLEAR, TZOUNIS CONTINUED, THAT ANY ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING THE RETURN OF REFUGEES TO VAROSHA WOULD NOT CONTINUE IN FORCE IF THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS BROKE DOWN. TZOUNIS WENT ON THAT GREEK CYPRIOT REFUGEES WOULD NOT BE WILLING TO RETURN TO VAROSHA IN THE ABSENCE OF A GUARANTEE THAT THEY WOULD NOT HAVE TO LEAVE AGAIN IN THE FUTURE OR THAT IF THEY REMAINED THEY WOULD HAVE TO DO SO UNDER TFSC ADMINISTRATION (WHICH WAS UNACCEPTABLE). IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, AS THE MINISTER HAD TOLD THE AMBASSADOR ON TUESDAY, TZOUNIS STRESSED THAT THE TURKISH PWNXPSALS ON ANROSHA WOULD HAVE TO BE IMPROVED BEFORE THE GREEK CYPRIOTS COULD AGREE TO THE RESUMPTION OF ANY KIND OF DIALOGUE WITH THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS.

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